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Security Council

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English
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Identical letters dated 27 May 2017 addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On 26 May 2017, the war planes of the illegal "international coalition" led by the United States of America bombarded the city of Mayadin, in the south-east of Dayr al-Zawr governorate, killing 35 civilians, most of whom were women and children, and injuring dozens more.

This recent attack is one of a series of acts of aggression committed by the illegal "international coalition" against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic. The pretext for such actions is to fight terrorism, but their effect is merely to spread chaos and destruction. Extremist terrorist groups stand to gain, none more so than the terrorist organizations Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and the Nusrah Front. The actions of the "coalition" flagrantly contravene the resolutions of the Security Council, international law and international humanitarian law. Once again, we wish to highlight the coalition's hostile nature and its collusion with parties whose sole aim is to kill innocent Syrian civilians. The "coalition" has admitted to killing hundreds of innocent Syrian civilians over the last few months, and its pretexts have been shown up as spurious.

The Syrian Arab Republic condemns the attacks carried out by the "international coalition", which has targeted civilians, caused huge material losses and wreaked appalling destruction on the infrastructure, on the country's economic, service, oil and gas facilities, and on public and private property in the Syrian Arab Republic. It calls on the Security Council to enforce its resolutions safeguarding the territorial integrity and the people of the Syrian Arab Republic, and to bring an end to the acts of aggression carried out by the illegal "international coalition". Those actions have coincided with attacks perpetrated by ISIL and the Nusrah Front against innocent civilians. The "coalition" has also openly attacked the Syrian Army, which has been fighting terrorism alongside supporting forces throughout the country.

Certain Western permanent members have monopolized the working methods of the Security Council. Their diversion and guile have been the primary reasons why the crisis in Syria has dragged on.

The policies of these countries and their regional proxies, such as Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Turkey, are what sparked the crisis in Syria. They constitute support for armed terrorist groups whose reach has now spread to other parts of the world; the recent terrorist attacks in Manchester, in the United Kingdom, were a case in point.

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The Syrian Arab Republic once again stresses that the activities of the illegal "coalition" led by the United States of America must come to an end, and that the counter-terrorism resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 2253 (2015), must be implemented.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mounzer **Mounzer**
Minister Plenipotentiary
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

United Nations S/2017/458

Security Council

Distr.: General
1 June 2017
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 28 May 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and further to previous letters regarding grave and recurring violations by Turkey of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic, I should like to inform you that the Turkish regime has yet again violated Syrian sovereignty and continues to support terrorism and endanger international peace and security.

On 23 March 2017, the Turkish regime occupied 100 dunams of farmland belonging to Syrian civilians in Balikuy village, in the Afrin area of Aleppo governorate. Turkish regime military forces cut down woodland and fruit trees at that location.

On 28 April 2017, Turkish military forces with heavy machinery infiltrated Syrian territory between the villages of Ayn al-Bayda and Khirbat al-Jawz, in Ladhiqiyah governorate. They uprooted fruit trees belonging to Syrian civilians and began digging trenches and building cement walls inside Syrian territory.

On 27 April 2017, Turkish military forces fired missiles and heavy artillery at Syrian territory and civilian residents in Jindayris district and the Afrin area in the mountains of north-west Aleppo governorate.

The Turkish regime has established a military base in Kuljibrin village, in the I'zaz area of Aleppo governorate. The base houses 200 Turkish soldiers, dozens of tanks, personnel carriers, four-wheel-drive vehicles, and communication and listening devices. It provides military and logistical support for the so-called Euphrates Shield forces, a terrorist group that is based in the Bab area and acts at the behest of the Turkish regime. The Turkish regime has also installed a prefabricated barrier wall to separate the Bab area, which has been occupied by Turkish military forces and associated terrorist groups, from the surrounding areas, which are under the control of the Syrian Arab Army. That measure is part of a Turkish endeavour to impose a new situation on the ground and create firm boundaries with a view to establishing a buffer zone.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic once again strongly condemns the Turkish regime's ongoing attacks on the Syrian people and Syrian sovereignty. It calls on the Security Council to fulfil its responsibility to preserve international peace and security and put an end to the Turkish regime's outrageous violations of the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and all Security Council resolutions on Syria and counter-terrorism, as well as the

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regime's violation of the principles of friendly relations and good-neighbourliness among States endorsed by the General Assembly. The Turkish Government must be held accountable for those violations. It must also be compelled to halt its support for terrorism and immediately implement Security Council resolutions on counter-terrorism.

I should be grateful if this letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mounzer **Mounzer**
Minister Plenipotentiary
Chargé d'affaires a.i.